Finding of No Significant Impact
Eradication of Isolated Populations of Light Brown Apple Moth in California
Revised Environmental Assessment
July, 2007

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), has prepared a revised environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes potential environmental consequences of eradicating isolated populations of light brown apple moth (*Epiphyas postvittana*) (LBAM) in California. The EA, incorporated by reference in this document, is available from:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Emergency and Domestic Programs
Emergency Management
4700 River Road, Unit 134
Riverdale, MD 20737–1236

The revised EA analyzed alternatives consisting of (1) maintaining the Federal quarantine order without further action by APHIS (no action alternative), and (2) continuation of the Federal quarantine order along with eradication of isolated populations of LBAM in California with the use of *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk) and/or LBAM-specific pheromone (treatment alternative). The revised EA evaluated the potential impacts from eradication treatments of small, isolated populations and determined that any potential impacts would be limited. Since the circumstances surrounding each isolated population are unique, each site will be considered in a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) prior to treatment. This FONSI addresses three treatment sites.

Treatments in Vallejo, California

One LBAM male moth was found on Mare Island in Solano County earlier this year. Mare Island is located on the western end of the City of Vallejo in Solano County, California. It is located midway between San Francisco and Sacramento. Mare Island is a former naval shipyard that was established in 1854 and closed in 1996. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manage some wetland areas and a historical dredge pond wildlife area north of the treatment site. The old naval shipyard is in the process of being developed for residential, commercial, industrial, educational, and recreational uses. The treatment area will consist of a 200-meter radius around the moth find. The treatment in this area will consist of using pheromone dispensers that are attached to trees, shrubs, and other fixtures at a rate of 250 dispensers per acre. The dispensers consist of pheromone-impregnated twist ties. These dispensers allow for the continual release of pheromone over the course of 90 days. The dispensers will be removed after 2 to 3 months. Treatment in this area is anticipated to occur on or around August 22, 2007. A map of the treatment location is attached.

One LBAM male moth was found near Louisiana Street in Vallejo, California. This area is mostly residential. The treatment area will be the same as that on Mare Island and will consist of a 200 meter radius around the moth find. There are no lakes, streams, or rivers in the treatment area. The treatment will consist of using pheromone dispensers that are attached to trees, shrubs, and other fixtures at a rate of 250 dispensers per acre. The dispensers consist of pheromone-impregnated twist ties. These dispensers allow for the continual release of pheromone over the course of 90 days. The dispensers will be removed after 2 to 3 months. Treatment in this area is anticipated to occur on or around August 22, 2007. A map of the treatment location is attached.

A third LBAM male moth was found near Muller Street in Vallejo, California. The treatment area will consist of a 200 meter radius around the moth find. The treatment area is mostly residential and will contain the Franklin Junior High School. There are no lakes, streams or rivers in the treatment area. The treatment will consist of using pheromone dispensers that are attached to trees, shrubs and other fixtures at a rate of 250 dispensers per acre. The dispensers consist of pheromone-impregnated twist ties that allow for the continual release of pheromone over the course of 90 days. The dispensers will be removed after 2 to 3 months. Treatment is anticipated to occur on or around August 22, 2007. A map of the treatment location is attached.

The revised EA evaluated the potential impacts of eradication treatments of small, isolated populations like the ones on Mare Island and Vallejo, California. Due to the nature of the dispenser and the pheromone itself, there will be no impacts to the human environment including nontargets because the product is contained in dispensers that are tied to fixtures and will be removed after treatment. In addition, there will be no negative cumulative effects from this action in combination with any other actions because there are no impacts to the human environment including nontarget species. The most likely impact will be the reduction of the LBAM population; eventually leading to the eradication of LBAM in California.

APHIS and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) have discussed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) the treatments of LBAM-specific pheromone at various locations. There were no federally threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat in the treatment areas. However, the Napa River which separates Mare Island and the rest of Vallejo, California is listed as critical habitat for the steelhead trout. A no effect determination for listed species and critical habitat has been made for the steelhead trout because the dispensers will be tied to trees and other fixtures that will remain in the treatment areas and will be removed after 2 to 3 months. In addition, there is a monarch butterfly habitat 200 meters to the east of the treatment site on Mare Island. However, the pheromone is specific to LBAM mating disruption and will not disturb the mating of the monarch butterfly.

There are no disproportionate adverse effects to minorities, low-income populations, or children in accordance with Executive Order 12898, “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations,” and

Executive Order 13045, "Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks."

APHIS' finding of no significant impact for these three treatment areas is based upon the expected limited environmental consequences, as analyzed in the EA. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared if implementation of the proposed action may significantly affect the quality of the human environment. I have determined that there would be no significant impact to the human environment from the implementation of the treatment alternative and, therefore, no EIS needs to be prepared.

August 21, 2007

Osama El-Lissy
Emergency and Domestic Programs
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency

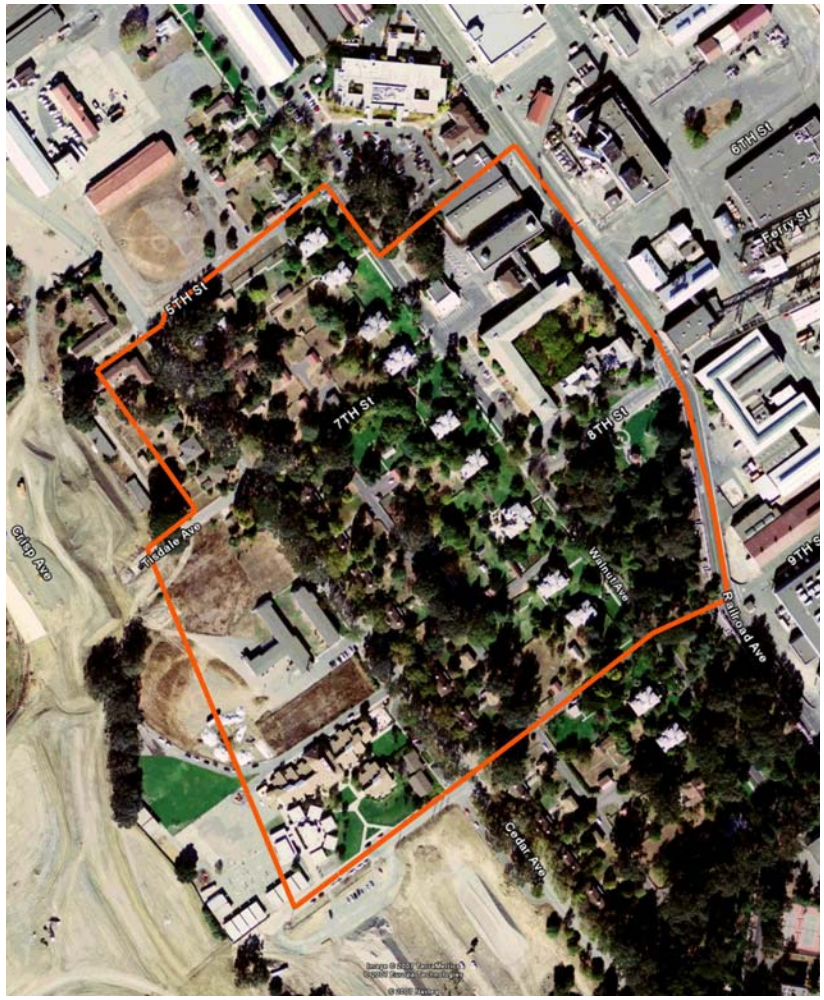
Date

LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH
VALLEJO (MARE ISLAND), SOLANO COUNTY
200M GROUND TREATMENT

cdfa

200M BOUNDARY

LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH
VALLEJO (MARE ISLAND), SOLANO COUNTY
200M GROUND TREATMENT



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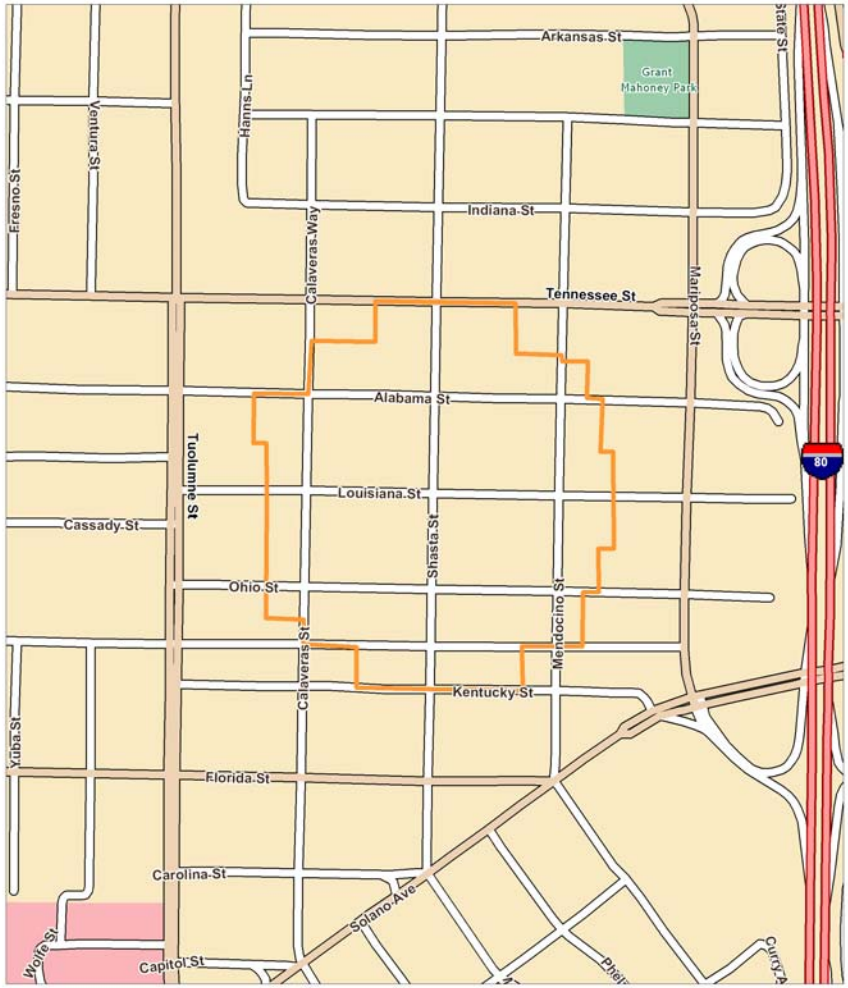
200M BOUNDARY

LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH
VALLEJO (LOUISIANA ST), SOLANO COUNTY
200M GROUND TREATMENT



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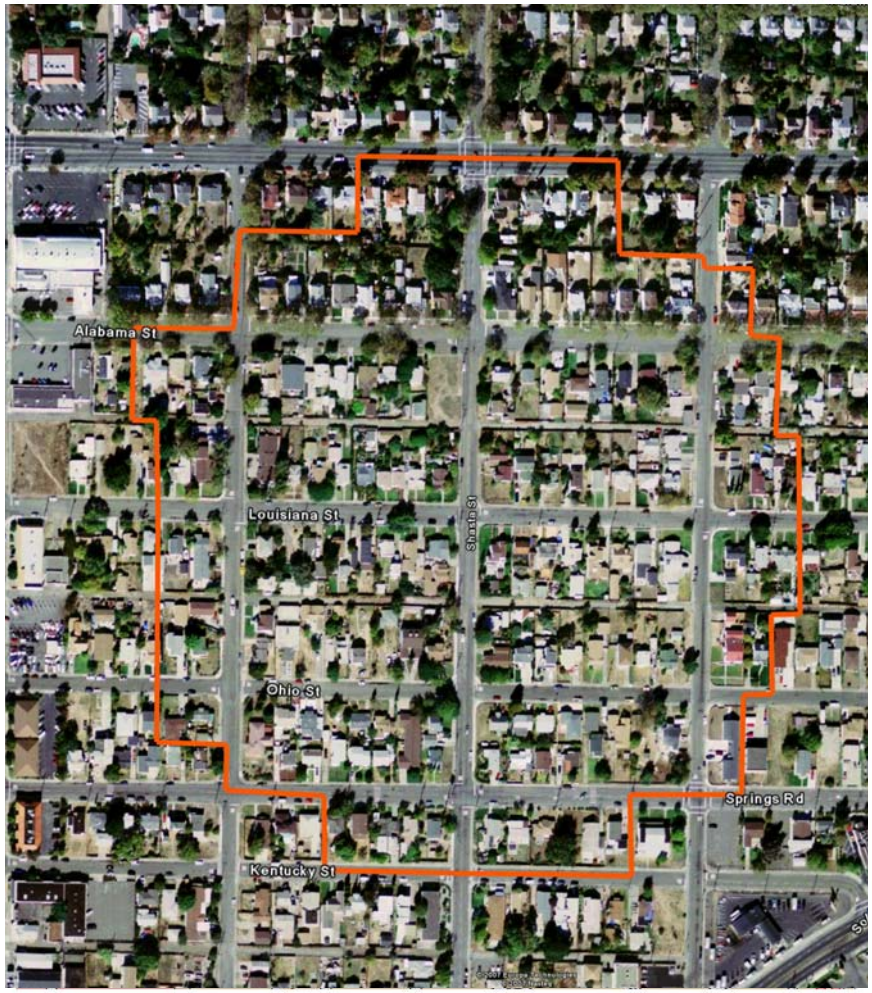
200M BOUNDARY

LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH
VALLEJO (LOUISIANA ST), SOLANO COUNTY
200M GROUND TREATMENT



cdfa

200M BOUNDARY

LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH
VALLEJO (MULLER ST), SOLANO COUNTY
200M GROUND TREATMENT

cdfa

200M BOUNDARY

LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH
VALLEJO (MULLER ST), SOLANO COUNTY
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